

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06523 121925Z

12

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UR, OGEN

SUBJ: SOVIET PROTEST ON STOYANOV'S VISA APPLICATION

REF: MOSCOW 5178

1. ANTIPOV, COUNSELOR USA DIVISION MFA, READ STATEMENT TO ADMIN COUNSELOR MAY 12 ALLEGING EMBASSY STAFF MEMBERS HUFF AND WILLEMS ACTED IMPROPERLY ON MARCH 27 BY "DETAINING FOR MORE THAN ONE HOUR SOVIET CITIZEN STOYANOV WHO HAD COMMITTED A CRIMINAL ACT BY ATTACKING THE MILITIAMAN WHO WAS GUARDING THE EMBASSY. AS BECAME KNOWN, WHILE AT THE EMBASSY STOYANOV, ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE EMBASSY, FILLED IN FORMS FOR ENTRY TO THE UNITED STATES ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT ADDRESSED THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES FOR EXIT PERMISSION. MOREOVER, STOYANOV AND HIS SON WERE ASSURED BACK-DATED INVITATIONS TO VISIT THE EMBASSY. THE ATTENTION OF THE U.S. EMBASSY HAS ALREADY BEEN DRAWN TO THE INADMISSIBILITY OF SUCH ACTION TOWARD SOVIET CITIZENS."

2. ADMIN COUNSELOR REJECTED OUT OF HAND ANY SUGGESTION THAT CONSULAR OFFICERS WILLEMS AND HUFF ACTED IMPROPERLY. POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS HIGHLY IMPROBABLE THEY WOULD "DETAIN" A SOVIET CITIZEN WHO HAD BEEN FORCED TO ATTACK A MILITIAMAN IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE EMBASSY. ADMIN COUNSELOR SAID HE KNEW OF NO AMERICAN REQUIREMENT THAT PERSONS MUST HAVE

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 06523 121925Z

PERMISSION FROM THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT BEFORE EVEN APPLYING

FOR A U.S. VISA. SUGGESTED THAT PROBLEMS THIS NATURE WOULD NOT ARISE IF COMPETENT SOVIET AUTHORITIES WOULD INSTRUCT MILITIAMEN NOT TO PREVENT ACCESS TO PREMISES TO ANY AND ALL PERSONS HAVING LEGITIMATE BUSINESS WITH EMBASSY.

3. ANTIPOV SEEMED EMBARRASSED, PARTICULARLY BY REFERENCE TO RIDICULOUS ASSERTION THAT EMBASSY OFFICERS "DETAINED" SOVIET CITIZEN WHO FORCED HIS WAY INTO EMBASSY. HE DID NOT PURSUE MATTER AND QUICKLY TURNED TO ANOTHER SUBJECT. STOESSEL

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